



Faith Matters

OCTOBER 2021

Becky's Billet-doux

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.³ Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart." - Hebrews 12:1-3

All Saints Day is coming up, we will celebrate it in the church on Nov. 7th. Last year we remembered saints that had gone before us, this year let's remember saints that are still among us. All of God's children qualify as saints because we are simultaneously both saint and sinner (simul justus et peccator). If you have lost anyone in the last year though, I would encourage you to bring their photo and let the congregation, the community of believers, help you remember and celebrate them. Otherwise, bring a photo of a living saint for the "Saints" table starting Oct 3rd .

Why is this day important to us? All Saint's Day reminds each of us that we are part of God's story, part of His family. Our lives belong to him. Each Sunday when we partake in the Lord's Supper, we commune with all the saints, all those who have come before us, all those with us and all those yet to be. I hope this is comforting you.

As we commune with the saints, we remember the One who makes saints. The one who loves sinners. Our sinful self is all that we have to give to God. Our brokenness is all we can offer. Even as we live in the righteousness of Christ, we claim this righteousness only at his bidding

and only because of his sacrifice. On our own we offer nothing. Our best deeds are like filthy rags before God. (See Isaiah 64:6)

We exist in this juxtaposition of sinfulness and righteousness. We receive the Gospel, the Good News of God who loves us, redeems us and sanctifies us. He opens our ears to him. He changes our hearts and writes his law in us, that we may begin to live lives a bit more pleasing to him. He does not guide us to the self-help section of the bookstore. He does not give us Seven Steps to get better or be better or think better or live better. What he gives us is himself. What he gives us is salvation. He gives because we can never get good enough to earn it. So, he came and earned it for us.

In this process of making saints, the Lord took your sins, and he became your sin. He suffered the wages of your sin, so that you might live. And what did you do? What part did you play? You were not even here yet! You had no choice in God's saving grace. You are here because HE chose you. He made you part of his family and has given you many, many brothers and sisters, as many as there are stars in the sky and sand grains by the sea. These

are fellow sinners redeemed by the blood of Christ. This is your family. These are your people, your fellow saints, some are home, some are here, and some are yet to come. God knows each person intimately, just as he knows you. Happy October and Happy All Saint's Day. During October, bring a photo of a saint of your choosing (living or recently deceased) and place them on the table. Let's celebrate God's family, your family!

Pastor Becky

Schedule of Events

- ④ Ladies Bible Study - Tuesdays - 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- ④ Wednesdays: 6:00 p.m. Theology Study based on Dr. Steven Paulson's, Luther for Armchair Theologians; Lectionary Readings on Facebook after 5pm.
- ④ Sunday School for all ages - Sundays - 10:00 AM
- ④ Worship Service - Sundays - 11:00 AM

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- ④ October 3 - Pastor gone to LCMC Annual Gathering through 6th, You are invited to attend at lcmc.net. Ron preaches in our Worship Service.
 - ④ October 4 - Ladies Luncheon - Noon at Big Daddy's Catfish - 1121 E. 42nd St.
 - ④ October 6 - No Wed. Bible Study
 - ④ October 9 - Church Work Day 8AM - Noon.
 - ④ October 11 - Indigenous Peoples Day; Columbus Day.
 - ④ October 14 - Ladies Luncheon at noon
 - ④ October 17 - Augustana District Sunday.
 - ④ October 19 - Board Meeting at 6:00PM
 - ④ October 30 - Fall Festival 4:00PM - 6:00PM
 - ④ October 31 - Reformation Day; Halloween - Wear your red! After worship we'll celebrate October Birthdays and do the raffle draw.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ④ November 14 - Welcome Laura Web- Laura is our seminarian intern and will start in January.
- ④ November 21 - Thank Offering Sunday - Bring the change you've been collecting all year as a special offering. Money will go to Christian Refugees in N. Ethiopia.

Please visit the church calendar on the website for more information at faithfellowshipodessa.org



Would you be willing to serve?

We need readers, ushers, and Altar Guild. Please sign up to work one Sunday a month, sign-up sheets are

on the 'Sign Up' table in the foyer.

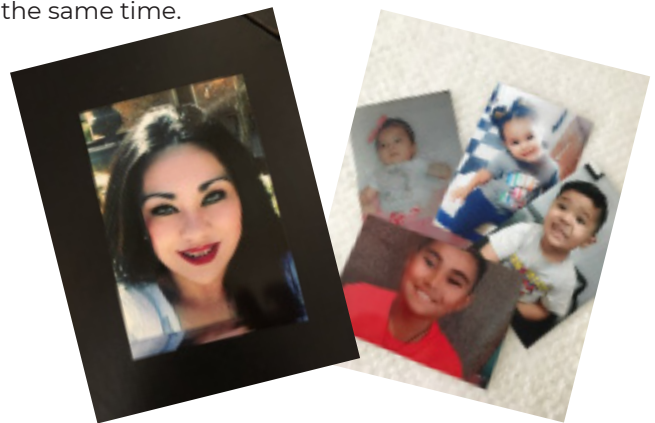
Fellowship Planning: October Fellowship is being planned by Pat Barrow, Oct. 31.

November Fellowship: is being planned by Jeannie Tripp

December Fellowship is being planned by Sherry Shearer and Pearl Hennig.

New To Our Family

Lisa Gonzales, Ryan Gonzales, Isaac Ray Fuentes, Leah Gonzales, and Cheyanne Gonzales. Please welcome them to our Church Family. The children were baptized September 19th and Lisa joined the church the same time.



Prayer of the Month

Holy Lord, you are above all things and yet have lowered yourself to us. We come to you in our brokenness and shame. Have mercy on us, Lord. Grant us forgiveness and peace; teach us to love others in a way that is pleasing to you. We ask in the name that is above all names, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Prayers

- † Adams, Calvin (Angie Gullett's dad, prayer for salvation; health; eye issues)
- † Ard, Farrell & Kellie (healing)
- † Arnold, Dale (health)
- † Askren, Gale (Sherry Shearer's sister, diagnosed with cancer)
- † B., Jessica (Harley's daughter Abby for recovery - prayer request from vase)
- † Bangert family (dad has CHF)
- † Brown, Donna (healing)
- † Boring Family (loss of Jo)
- † Burditt, Larry (Angie Gullett's brother-in-law, Parkinson's & his dad for healing)
- † Carr, Billie (Betty Lively's sister, healing)
- † Collerd, Tyler
- † Cox, Wanda (Angie's sis-in-law, heart issues, health)
- † Eilers, Melvin (healing)
- † Estrada, Mary
- † Pr. Fisks, Paul (healing)
- † Fowler, Ginnie (treatments)
- † Fowler, Jerry
- † Frederick family, in the loss of Kim Garrison, Marilee (lung cancer)
- † Gonzales, Lisa (recovery from surgeries in Dallas)
- † Gullett, Angie (eye injections)
- † Hennig, Pearl (fractured arm)
- † Inzer family (in loss of Tommy's dad)
- † Pr. Kaskela, Jerry (healing)
- † Kurek, Darrell (recovery from surgery) r Fellowship is

Prayer for Our Military Service Men & Women (Especially in Afghanistan) (Please let us know of any individuals who are currently serving in a combat area or other areas) Jake Waddell (Shearers' grandson, US Army) in Iraq

Sympathy for the family and friends, in the loss of Frieda Theesfield.

Special Prayers for those affected by Covid-19 & Covid Delta Variant and healing from it, continued prayers for the city of Odessa and Midland and it's people; For the people in Haiti in the devastation of the earthquake they endured; For Afghanistan and our missionaries, pastors, Afghan believers, and for it's people and for our

- being planned by Sherry Shearer and Pearl Hennig
- † Lomax, Craig (loss of mom)
- † Marlee - prayer request from lady that came to Back to School Coffee & Donuts (young girl, needs healing from cancer)
- † Marrick, Patty (Covid, loss of her husband Bud)
- † McCarter, Sarah (healing)
- † McGee, Helen (healing)
- † Mullins, Ellie (6 yr. old, transplanted kidney to stay healthy)
- † Nance, Bodhi (Watson's grandson)
- † Otwell, Joyce (health)
- † Overstreet family (loss of 18 yr. old son)
- † Perez, Marsha (healing)
- † Pierce, Richard (heart issue)
- † Scott, Abe (cancer, for healing)
- † Scott, Becca (for son and grandson, Dillon and Lincoln, custody issues)
- † Silhan, Charlie
- † Simendinger, Bonnie (cancer) Southard, John (CHF)
- † Strickland, Gary (salvation)
- † Theesfield Family in the loss of Frieda
- † Vencil, Naylan (health, moving to Brookdale)
- † Watson, Marlene (health)
- † Weaver, Sharlene (rec. from surgery)
- † West, Kim (healing)
- † White, Brecken (recovery from surgery)
- † White, Ronnie (rec. from Covid, in hospital)
- † Worthen Family (Ty, Shelbie and baby boy Worthen)

troops there; for those in our state, country, & world that are hurting, sick, suffering and dealing with different issues. Faculty, Staff, Students and Families of Reagan Elementary, and Bonham Middle School, all our schools and teachers and administrators, President Biden/Harris, U. S. government officials, our country.

Pray for our Homebound Larry Minor, Phyllis Dudley, Helen McGee, Charles & Charlene Miller, Barbara Ridge, Dan Womochel, Jo Hafer, Evelyn Byerly, Grover Charsha, Jack Tarter. Marsha Perez, Bobby & Marlene Watson, Merry Gay Mesker, Rosemary Browning, Charles & Shirley Garrett, M'Liss Schneider, Billie Carr, Ronda Scott, Freddie Wheeler.

Fall Festival

October 30

Join us for the fun! We will be in the back parking lot. Free popcorn and hot dogs! Games & Prizes! Fun for all ages!

Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Location: 1603 N. Grandview Ave.



October Fellowship & Reformation Sunday

October 31

After the morning service we will celebrate October Birthdays with cake and punch, and Raffle drawing.

Please purchase raffle tickets for our Outreach Projects.

Multiple opportunities to win. The raffle tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Need not be present to "Win", ticket stub with number and phone number required.



Start your Christmas shopping Today! 20% off sale on Foot Energizer \$16.00 a tube. Contact Pearl Hennig to order.

For Consultation on

Wellness Products Call

Pearl Hennig at (432) 238-7577 or order online at

<https://pearl.firstfitness.com>

We helped 6 families in September!



Classifieds

We are offering ad space for \$5 donations in our Newsletter. If you have:

- a business you want to promote;
- something you want to sell;
- someone you need to hire;
- or are looking for recommendations

Please fill out a form, or email the office and we'll put it in our next Newsletter.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to Blooming Rose Florist for providing us with altar flowers for Sundays.

Blooming Rose Florist

302 E University Blvd

Odessa, TX 79762

(432) 337-7673

Business Hours:

Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm

Saturday - 8am - 5pm